

Serial No. : 10/526,795  
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Page 2

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the Abstract with the following Abstract:

A lifting device for containers comprises at least one hydraulic cylinder arranged on a support frame with a piston and piston rod and at least two, spaced-apart horizontal guiding cross-bars. Lengthwise displacement of the piston rod is transformed into a synchronous upward and downward movement by at least one angle lever pivoted on the support frame. The at least one angle lever comprises two lever arms, one of the lever arms being connected to the piston rod and the other of the lever arms being connected to one of the guiding cross-bars. The guiding cross-bars are connected to a load receiving device for the container and are guided on vertical support pillars of the support frame at both ends for lifting and lowering the container.